

Message Text

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60

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-06 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

LAB-04 SIL-01 L-02 H-01 IO-10 /093 W

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P R 091200Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0599

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

RUQMATWLAMEMBASSY ATHENS 152

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMLBASSY MANILA 422

AMEMBASS Y NEW DELHI

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MANILA PASS ADB

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EFIN, AF

SUBJ: PLANNED TREASURY/CONGRESSIONAL VISIT TO AFGHANISTAN

REF: STATE 268983

FOR ZINMAN (TREASURY) AND CROWE (STATE)

1. EMBASSY WELCOMES VISIT TREASURY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AS DESCRIBED BY JDFTEL. CONTROL OFFICER FOR VISIT IS ECONOMIC COUNSELOR WILLIAM E RAU. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS ENTIRE PARTY BE HOUSED IN INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, ONLY TOURIST HOTEL IN COUNTRY WITH ADEQUATE CENTRAL HEATING FACILITIES. TENTATIVE RESERVATIONS MADE PENDING CONFIRMATION NUMBER IN PARTY AND FIRM ARRIVAL DATE.

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2. ASSUME DEPPT HAS CONTACTED KYAW MYINT, FORMER IBRD RESREP IN KABUL, WHO CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO IBRD IN WASHINGTON. MYINT MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE AND INTIMATE DETAILS WORLD BANK DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN. CURRENT AXRD RESREP TAE HEE YOON SCHEDULED ARRIVE KABUL LATER THIS MONTHSM. ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) HAS NO RPT NO RESREP IN KABUL. EMBASSY SUGGESTS ADB EITHER ACCOMPANY OR MEET PARTY IN KABUL.

3. RE TENTATIVE ARRIVAL DATE MENTIONED PARA FOUR, REFTEL, PARTY SHOULD BE AWARE JANUARY 3 IS FRIDAY, MOSLEM HOLIDAY. EMBASSY HOPES PARTY CAN PLAN ARRIVE ON JANUARY 4, BEGINNING OF AFGHAN WORK WEEK.

4. RE PROJECT VISITS, PARTY SHOULD BE AWARE MOST IF NOT ALL IBRD AND ADB-SPONSORED PROJECTS IN KABUL AREA ARE IN VERY PRELIMINARY STATES WITH EXCEPTION RECENTLY-FORMED INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BANK. THERE IS POSSIBILITY VISIT OTHER PROJECT SITES IN COUNTRY SUCH AS HERAT-BASED LIVESTOCK PCJJECT, BUT COMBINATION DISTANCE TO BE TRAVELLED, LIMITED TIME OF PARTY VISIT AND VERY UNPREDICTABLE JANUARY WEATHER CONDITIONS IN AFGHANISTAN SEEM MITIGATE AGAINST SUCH VISITS. IN FACT, KABUL AIRPORT ITSELF OFTEN CLOSED BY SNOW, FOG, DURING JANUARY, FEBRUARY. IN SUMMARY, PROJECT VISITS PROBABLY WILL BE LIMITED TO KABUL AREA AND TO DISCUSSIONS OF PROJECTS RATHER THAN EYEBALLING ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION OR ACTIVITY.

5. EMBASSY ANTICIPATES NO RPT NO PROBLEM OBTAINING GROUP WAIVER FOR VISAS.

6. RE POSSIBLE DEFERRAL NOOTER VISIT MENTIONED PARA NINE, REFTEL, WE AWAIT YOUR SEPTTEL THIS SUBJECT. IN VIEW OF IMPORTANNF OF HIGHLIGHTING NOOTER VISIT TO GOA AS FOLLOW-UP TO SECRETARY'S STOP, WE RECOMMEND A GAP BETWEEN HIS AND TREASURY/CONGRESSIONAL VISIT.
ELIOT

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